

ORDINANCE NO: 2023-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BLOUNTSTOWN, FLORIDA PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 8, CODE OF ORDINANCES, CONCERNING ANIMALS; PROVIDING FOR THE AUTHORITY OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE WITH RESPECT TO ANIMALS GENERALLY; PROVIDING FOR A HOLDING PERIOD FOR CITY-SHELTERED ANIMALS; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR A STATEMENT OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE:

WHEREAS, The City of Blountstown is empowered to provide for the health, safety, welfare, and infrastructure for the citizens of Blountstown, Florida; and

WHEREAS, the City is empowered to oversee and control animals within City limits; and

WHEREAS, The City Council of the City of Blountstown, Florida has determined that it is in the public interest to provide for the amendment proposed herein and to provide the Chief of Police with broad authority relative to animals generally; and

WHEREAS, The City Council of the City of Blountstown, Florida therefore proposes to amend Chapter 8 of its Code of Ordinances to provide for an amended holding period for City-sheltered animals, and to provide the Chief of Police with broad authority relative to animals generally.

NOW THEREFORE, IT BE ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOUNTSTOWN, FLORIDA THAT:

SECTION ONE: The following ordinance amendment, concerning animals and providing the Chief of Police with broad authority relative to animals generally, shall be amended as follows:

CHAPTER 8 – ANIMALS

...

Sec. 8-8 – Animal Shelter

...

- (5) After any animal has been placed in the shelter, if the owner desires the shelter to attempt to place such animal with a suitable person, he shall pay a pound or shelter fee of \$5.00 per day and the animal may be held for a period of three days for possible adoption. Provided, however, if the city determines before the three-day period has elapsed that the animal is not suitable for adoption, such animal may be disposed of at any time.

...

- (7) Strays. Any stray animal, or dog may be impounded and placed in the animal shelter because it does not have the necessary tag attached to the collar or harness, may be held at such shelter for a period of three days to afford the owner of such dog an opportunity to reclaim the dog; provided, however, that no owner shall be permitted to reclaim any such dog until the applicable fees, as provided for in this article, are paid, or until sufficient evidence is presented to show that such fees have already been paid, in which case the owner may reclaim his dog upon payment of a pound or shelter fee of \$5.00 per day.

SECTION TWO: SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is held for any reason, to be unconstitutional, void, or invalid, the validity of the remaining portion of the ordinance shall not be affected hereby.

SECTION THREE: EFFECTIVE DATE AND REPEALER

- A. This amendment shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.
- B. All ordinances and parts of existing ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ATTEST:

CITY OF BLOUNTSTOWN


Traqi S. Hall, City Manager


Tony Shoemaker, Mayor